Testimonial To Honor Monsignor Kaznocha

MSGR. KAZNOCHA

Dean of the Roman Catholic pastors throughout New Hampshire, Rev. Msgr. Frederic R. Kaznocha, who was the youngest priest ever to be made a pastor in this diocese, is retiring after more than 40 years as a pastor in Claremont and Manchester.

He will be honored at a testimonial on the occasion of his retirement. The mutual effort of all organizations affiliated with St. Hedwig Church, of which he is pastor, the statewide banquet will be held Sunday, Jan. 30, at Blessed Sacrament Hall in Manchester.

There will be a reception for Monsignor Kaznocha and a social hour at 1 p.m. followed by the banquet at 2 p.m. Rev. Alfred A. Daniszewski, administrator of St. Hedwig parish, will serve as honorary chairman and toastmaster at the affair.

Born in 1906 in Lowell, Mass., Monsignor Kaznocha was educated in the local schools, St. Anselm College in Manchester, St. Mary's Seminary and St. Cyril and Methodius in Orchard Lake, Mich. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1933 at St. Joseph's Cathedral in Manchester by the late Bishop John Peterson. He served as an associate pastor at St. Hedwig parish here from 1933 to 1936.

Before he was 30 he became the youngest priest in the diocese ever to be made a pastor and assigned to St. Joseph Parish in Claremont. He served there from 1936 to 1952. He was a community leader as well as a spiritual leader being the director of the Crippled Children's Society, the State TB Society, the Claremont Visiting Nurses Association, the Community Chest and Claremont Chapter of the Red Cross.

During World War II he was chairman of the Office of Price Administration organization in the Claremont area handling sugar and fuel control. He was a member of the clergy labor mediation board and registrar of the Claremont draft board.

In 1952 he was named pastor of St. Hedwig Church and in October of 1965, a domestic prelate with the title of right reverend mosnignor. In 1963 he undertook a most ambitious project, that of building a new church and rectory for the relatively small Polish-American parish, which in 1977 celebrates its 75th anniversary and is expected to see its mortgage paid off.

In the process of site selection, he acquired an entire city block bounded by Beech, Walnut, Orange, and Myrtle Streets. This included one of the city's finer old mansions which in more recent times had been the Bishop's Episcopal Residence and a Christian Brothers residence. This he converted into a convent for the Felician Sisters who teach at St. Casimir School and help take care of the church.

During a period when many parish schools consolidated or were phased out, Monsigner Kaznocha kept St. Casimir School going and made improvements to the three-story brick school on Union Street at the corner of Merrimack. Today it is one of only two parish schools left in the city.

John J. Gladysz is chairman of the testimonial committee. He has called a meeting for Thursday, January 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the church hall to finalize program plans. Tickets will be available from committee members before and after all masses.

Other members of the committee include: treasurer, Ronald Desrochers; tickets. Mrs. Genevieve McLoskey; program and invitations, Miss Matilda M. Bykowski; banquet, Mrs. Stella Gorski; hall, Ronald Desrochers; gifts, Henry A. Machos; entertainment, Sister Mary Emilitte; refreshments, Stanley Gorski; and publicity, Stanley J. Tkacz.

Testimonial Banquet

for

Rev. Msgr. FREDERIC R. KAZNOCHA

in honor of his Retirement

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 1977

at BLESSED SACRAMENT HALL

Cocktail Hour: 1:00-2:00 p.m. Banquet: 2:00 p.m.

Admission: $7.50 Adult $4.00 Children

MANCHESTER (N.H.) UNION LEADER

Thursday, January 27, 1977

Two Bishops Will Lead Msgr. Kaznocha Tribute

Retiring February 1 after 44 years in the priesthood, the Rev. Msgr. Frederick R. Kaznocha, pastor of St. Hedwig Parish and dean of pastors in the Diocese of Manchester, will be honored Saturday.

Two bishops, Most Rev. Odore Gendron, D.D., bishop of Manchester, and Most Rev. Ernest J. Primeau, STD, of Rome, will lead the tribute to Monsignor Kaznocha who in 1936 became the youngest priest in the diocese ever to be made a pastor. It happened before his 30th birthday and he was assigned to St. Joseph Parish in Claremont.

A mass will be celebrated for Monsignor Kaznocha at 10:30 a.m. in the parish church at the corner of Beech and Orange Street, which he launched in 1963.

Statewide Tribute

There will be a statewide banquet in his honor, with more than 450 in attendance, at Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall on South Elm Street in the afternoon. There will be reception and social hour at 1 p.m., followed by a banquet at 2 p.m. The Rev. Alfred A. Daniszewski, administrator of St. Hedwig parish, will serve as honorary chairman and toastmaster.

Born in Lowell, Mass., in 1906, Monsignor Kaznocha attended St. Anselm's College and St. Mary's Seminary and St. Cyril and Methodius in Orchard Lake, Mich. He was ordained to the priesthood at St. Joseph Cathedral here in 1933 by the late Bishop John B. Peterson. He served as an associate pastor at St. Hedwig Parish from 1933 to 1936, when he was named pastor at St. Joseph Parish in Claremont.

He returned to Manchester in 1952 as pastor of St. Hedwig's. In 1963 he undertook the most ambitious project that of building a new church and rectory for the relatively small Polish-American parish, which this year celebrates its 75th anniversary and expects to have its mortgage paid off.

He acquired an entire city block bounded by Beech, Walnut, Orange, and Myrtle Streets. Included in the parcel was one of the city's finest old mansions. It had been the Bishop's Episcopal Residence and a Christian Brothers residence in more recent times. This he converted into a convent for the Felician Sisters, who teach at St. Casimir School and help to take care of the church.

Went It Alone

He was a founding director of Catholic Charities and a charter director of the Diocesan School Board. During a period when most parish schools were phased out or consolidated with others, Monsignor Kaznocha went it alone. He made many improvements to the three-story brick school on Union Street at the corner of Merrimack. Today it is one of only two parish grammar schools left in Manchester.

Spiritually too, he enjoyed great success during his years as pastor here. Six men from the parish were ordained as priests, one as a brother, and four young women entered the convent.

Ordained as priests were: Rev. Stanley Skora, Rev. Stanley Chrapek as a Trappist, Rev. Camillus Janas, OFM, Rev. Paul Dudziak, now in Mount Ranier, Md., Rev. Wilfred Houle, now stationed in Dover, and Rev. Daniel Szopa, stationed in Hampton. Becoming a brother was Kevin Plodzik, FSC.

Entering convents were Sister Mary Julia Janas, CSSF, Sister Jacqueline Kazanowski, CSSF, Sister Mary Michaela Tkacz, RSM: and Sister Mary John Fryc, CSSF.

Built Modern Complex

When Monsignor Kaznocha became pastor of st. Hedwig, he inherited an old physical plant. The church had been used 122 years by five different Protestant Congregations before being acquired by the parish in 1902. He sold the church, rectory, and old convent building on Merrimack Street to help finance the construction of the modern edifice and other facilities on Beech Street.

He was a corporator for Catholic charities for 25 years, served eight years on the Diocesan School Board, three years as chaplain of the State Knights of Columbus, and in October 1965 he was made a domestic prelate with the title of right reverend monsignor.

Organizations affiliated with the parish are co-sponsoring the testimonial. They include: BPR Society, St. Joseph Society, St. Cecilia Choir, Friday Night Bingo Committee, Sunday night Bingo Committee, St. Hedwig Post 1341, Catholic war Veterans, Pulaski Club, Casimir Club, and St. Casimir Parent-Teacher Guild.